

Hello Wonderful Little Sprouts families,

Through gentle stories, crafting and play we will spend our time together in wonderment as we journey into the Enchanted Forest where the gnomes and fairies play. We will use this theme throughout the month as a jumping off point into our social focus of sharing an imagination and circle time etiquette. Once we've awakened our imaginations, we will conclude the month touring a special surprise the Big Sprouts are preparing for us.

To hone our skills at sharing an imagination, we will begin by transforming ourselves into fairies and gnomes. To help our kids to picture this in their minds, they will choose fairy wings or gnome hats to wear for circle time. We will use the song, "The Fairy Ring" to play through sharing an imagination and the finger play, "Ten Little Gnomes" to visualize a story together. In addition to using our imagination skills, our children will also be building their direction following abilities, participating in a group plan, motor planning, and sequencing.

With many new friends joining us and "The Fairy Ring" (mushroom circles fairies and gnomes gather at) song we will be learning; it seems fitting to practice our circle time etiquette. These are the rules we follow when gathering as a group to learn. To do this, I have written 5 gentle gnome and fairy stories following the "Listening Song" lyrics of, "eyes are watching, ears are listening, voices quiet, bodies calm." We will read one story a week and practice the skill it is focusing on throughout the month. Reading together will also help to build our kiddo's focus, attention spans, and vocabulary.

To strengthen our fine motor skills and imaginations, we will be making breathing wands to calm and focus our bodies, as well as peg doll flower fairies, gnome houses, and fairy bottles to enhance our imaginary play. These crafts can be used at home to continue our theme of sharing an imagination as you play with them together. They will also help with hand strength, following simple directions, sharing materials, practicing the pincer grasp, enjoying sensory play, impulse control and building focus.

Below, you will find the links and words to the wonderful songs and verses for this month. Please feel free to sing and practice these with your kiddos ahead of time and all month long. This preview and practice will help to ease the anxiety and stress that new experiences and changes can bring. Which in turn, allows your child the calm needed to learn and grow.

May your month be filled with wonderment.

Warmest regards,

Emily

Movement Song

The Fairy Ring – Please note we are doing an abridged version.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6coy32sAb0A&list=PLjilygNCbNwdHd-o3oHc8TJpiEFvADcQk&index=14>

Let us dance and let us sing

Dancing in a merry ring

Gnomes and fairies on the green

Sporting round the fairy Queen

Faster, Faster round we go

While our cheeks so rosy glow

Free as birds upon the wing

Dancing in a fairy ring

Finger Play

Ten Little Gnomes

Ten little gnomes stand up straight,

Ten little gnomes make a gate,

Ten little gnomes bow to the King,

Ten little gnomes make a ring,

Ten little gnomes dance and play,

Ten little gnomes march away,

Listening Song

The Listening Song - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1gUfnWJJCQ>

Eyes are watching

Ears are Listening

Voices quiet

Bodies calm

This is how we listen X2

At group time X2

Mealtime Verse-

Thank you for our happy hearts

For rain and sunny weather

Thank you farmers for this food

And that we are together

Clean up song- skip forward to 3:00

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXPTN-lw46I>

Welcome Song

Good Morning Dear Earth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfSmzx0LG8M>